

The President's Daily Brief

9 June 1973

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

9 June 1973

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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[Taiwan]

25X1

(Page 2)

The EC foreign ministers have agreed to reconvene next month to give further consideration to a joint response to the US bid for a restatement of principles governing US-European relations. (Page 3)

[] leaders of Chile's Popular Unity coalition are in touch with General Prats about bringing the military back into the cabinet. (Page 4)

25X1

In Greece, the new republic will be organized around a strong presidency, after the model of the French political system. (Page 5)

Franco's formal relinquishment of his position as premier appears to be an attempt to restore cohesion in the Spanish Government. (Page 6)

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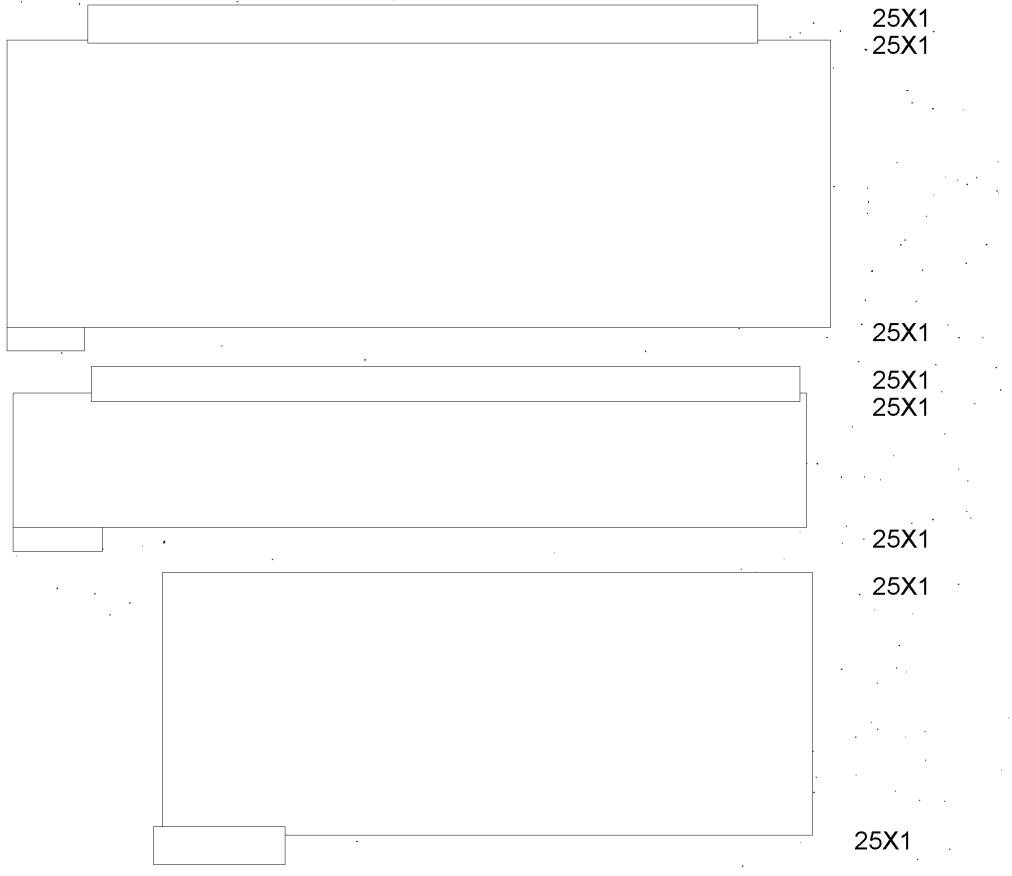
CHINA - NORTH VIETNAM

Le Duan's trip to Peking this week produced an agreement on Chinese economic and military assistance, but it may have been a disappointment to Hanoi. North Vietnam almost certainly argued for a heavy commitment of military aid, at least until the situation has stabilized. The new pact will of course include some military aid, but the order of priorities listed in the announcement indicates that the package favors the civilian side.

There have been earlier signs that Peking was considering cutbacks in military assistance, presumably as a way of ensuring closer compliance with the cease-fire agreements. Speeches in the course of the visit signaled some friction: the Chinese stressed that the Vietnamese should be patient and respect the agreements; Le Duan underlined the difficulties ahead and blamed the allied side for current problems.

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CHINA-TAIWAN



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EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

The EC foreign ministers agreed earlier this week to reconvene next month to give further consideration to a joint response to the US bid for a restatement of principles governing US-European relations. Before reaching agreement, however, they had to contend with persistent French attempts to minimize any coordination of foreign policy among the EC Nine.

French Foreign Minister Jobert [redacted]

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insisted Paris would oppose an Atlantic summit in connection with President Nixon's visit to Europe.

Under pressure from the eight other ministers, the French accepted the meeting next month. In the meantime, the members plan to discuss various questions bilaterally with the US.

EC members, particularly the French, are still worried that the US may try to extract concessions in trade and monetary matters in return for continued military and political support.

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CHILE

[redacted] Popular Unity coalition leaders are in touch with General Prats about bringing the military back into the cabinet.

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Allende presumably believes that bringing Prats back into the government will help him cope with the current strikes and other manifestations of widespread unrest.

Prats, spurred by his own presidential ambitions, would probably accept. Since the army hierarchy reportedly has insisted to Prats that the military be given all the cabinet posts--something the coalition would not accept--Prats may be willing to quit the army and rejoin the government as a civilian. He is known to be disenchanted by the obstructionist tactics of both the civilian politicians and military officers who oppose the government. He may believe that he can play a key role in restoring order and even in moderating some government policies.

The coalition parties are divided over the military's return. The Socialists, who forced the military out after the elections last March, still want to keep them out. The Communists welcome the prospect of help from the military in cracking down on the increasingly troublesome opposition. Both parties, however, mistrust Allende's motives in currying military support, fearing that it will reduce his dependence on the coalition parties.

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GREECE

The new republic will be organized around a strong presidency, after the model of the French political system. A president will be elected for a single seven-year term. He will choose the premier and 20 of the 200 members of parliament, but these members will not be able to vote on policy issues or participate in votes of confidence.

The president's term is expected to begin on April 21, 1974--the seventh anniversary of the 1967 coup. The people will reportedly be asked to vote for the president as part of next month's referendum sealing the creation of the republic; Prime Minister Papadopoulos is expected to be the only candidate. Parliamentary elections have not yet been scheduled, but should come before the end of 1974.

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SPAIN

Franco has formally relinquished his position as premier to his deputy, Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco.



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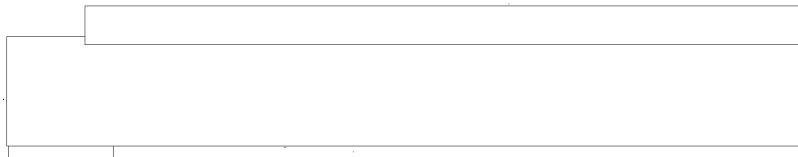
[redacted] He retains his two other top positions as chief of state and supreme commander of the armed forces. There is also no change in the position of Prince Juan Carlos who is still slated to take over as chief of state when Franco dies or is incapacitated.

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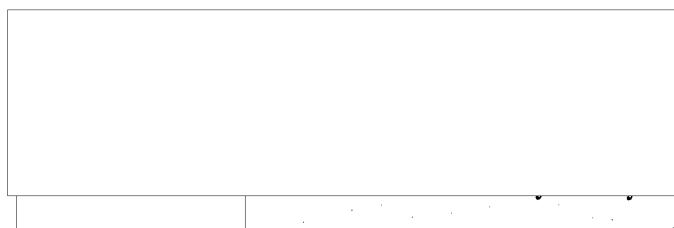
Franco, by naming Carrero premier now, appears to be attempting to restore cohesion in the government. This tightening-up process will probably lead to the appointment of more rightists to the cabinet. The result is likely to be a turn to the right in domestic policy.

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NATIONALIST CHINA



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NOTE

Japan: 

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